

CHAPTER 2 PHARMACIST LICENSES

[Prior to 2/10/88, see Pharmacy Examiners[620] Chs 1, 5]

657—2.1(147,155A) Licensure by examination. The board of pharmacy, in conjunction with the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), shall provide for the administration of pharmacist licensure examinations.

2.1(1) Components. Applicants shall take and pass the following components: the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX); the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE), Iowa Edition. A total scaled score of no less than 75 is required to pass each examination.

2.1(2) Timeliness. To be eligible for a license by examination, the candidate shall pass all components in Iowa within a period of one year beginning with the date the candidate passed an initial component. A candidate may request waiver or variance from this deadline pursuant to the procedures and requirements of 657—Chapter 34.

657—2.2(155A) Application for examination—requirements. Application for examination shall be on forms provided by the board, and all requested information shall be provided on or with such application. An applicant shall complete the NABP Computerized Examination Registration Form to apply for registration to take the NAPLEX. An applicant shall complete an additional registration form to apply for registration to take the MPJE, Iowa Edition.

2.2(1) Required information. The application for examination shall require that the applicant provide, at a minimum, the following: name; address; telephone number; date of birth; social security number; name and location of college of pharmacy and date of graduation; one current photograph of a quality at least similar to a passport photograph; and internship experience. Each applicant shall also declare the following: history of prior pharmacist licensure examinations and record of offenses including but not limited to charges, convictions, and fines which relate to the profession or that may affect the licensee's ability to practice pharmacy.

2.2(2) Sworn statement. The application for examination shall be made as a sworn statement before a notary public, and the notary public shall witness the signature of the applicant.

657—2.3(147,155A) Examination fee. The fee for examination shall consist of the biennial license fee, a processing fee, administration fees, and examination registration fees.

2.3(1) Fees to the board. The biennial license fee shall be the fee established by rule 2.11(147,155A), including surcharge. The processing fee shall be \$80. No refunds of the processing fee shall be made for cancellation or withdrawal of applications. The license fee and processing fee shall be payable to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy and may be remitted in the form of personal check, money order, or certified check. No refund of fees shall be made for failure to complete all licensure requirements within the period specified in subrule 2.1(2).

2.3(2) Fees to NABP. The examination registration and administration fees shall be amounts determined by NABP, shall be payable to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, and shall be in the form of a certified check or money order. Refunds of fees paid to NABP shall be at the discretion of NABP.

2.3(3) Submission of forms and fees. The biennial license fee including surcharge, the processing fee, the administration fees, and the examination registration fees shall accompany the applications and registration forms and shall be submitted to the Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688, or as otherwise directed by the board.

657—2.4(155A) Internship requirements. Each applicant shall furnish to the board evidence certifying completion of satisfactory internship experience. The board will not certify an applicant eligible to take any of the examination components prior to receipt of evidence of satisfactory completion of internship experience. Internship experience shall comply with the requirements in 657—Chapter 4. Internship experience completed in compliance with the requirements in 657—Chapter 4 shall be valid for application for licensure in Iowa by examination or score transfer for a period of three years following graduation from an approved college of pharmacy or as otherwise approved by the board on a case-by-case basis.

657—2.5(155A) College graduate certification. Each applicant shall furnish a certificate from a recognized college of pharmacy stating that the applicant has successfully graduated from a school or college of pharmacy with either a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy or a doctor of pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree. Certification shall be completed by an individual authorized by the college on a form provided by the board. A recognized college of pharmacy is a United States institution that meets the minimum standards of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education and appears on its list of accredited colleges of pharmacy published by the council as of July 1 of each year.

657—2.6(147) Reexamination applications and fees. A candidate who fails to pass the NAPLEX once shall be allowed to schedule a time to retake the examination no less than 91 days following administration of the failed examination. A candidate who fails to pass the MPJE, Iowa Edition, once shall be allowed to schedule a time to retake the examination no less than 30 days following administration of the failed examination. A candidate who fails to pass either examination following a second or subsequent examination may petition the board for permission to take the examination again. Determination of a candidate's eligibility to take an examination more than two times shall be at the discretion of the board.

Each applicant for reexamination shall file an application on forms provided by the board. Processing fees of \$40 each will be charged to take NAPLEX or MPJE, Iowa Edition, and shall be paid to the board as provided in subrule 2.3(1). In addition, candidates will be required to complete the appropriate examination registration application as provided in rule 2.2(155A) and to pay to NABP the registration and administration fees for each examination as provided in subrule 2.3(2). All applications, registration forms, and fees shall be submitted as provided in subrules 2.3(2) and 2.3(3).

657—2.7(147) Examination results. Examination scores and original license certificates shall be provided to each new licensee as soon after the examinations as possible.

657—2.8(155A) Transfer of examination scores. The board of pharmacy participates in the NAPLEX score transfer program offered by NABP. This program allows candidates for pharmacist licensure to take the standardized NAPLEX in one state and have the score from that examination transferred to other participant states in which the candidate is seeking licensure. MPJE scores cannot be transferred.

2.8(1) Score transfer application. The NAPLEX Score Transfer Form must be completed and submitted with the proper fee to NABP prior to, or postmarked no later than, the date on which the candidate takes the NAPLEX. The fee to NABP for score transfer is determined by NABP. Payment shall be made in the form of a money order or certified check payable to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. NABP makes no refunds of score transfer fees.

2.8(2) Requirements and deadline. Score transfer candidates shall meet the requirements established in rules 2.1(147,155A) through 2.5(155A) within 12 months of the date of transfer. No refund of fees paid to the board will be made for failure to complete all licensure requirements within this one-year period.

2.8(3) Fees. In addition to the score transfer fee identified in subrule 2.8(1), fees for licensure pursuant to the NABP score transfer program shall consist of the fees identified in rule 2.3(147,155A) excluding the NAPLEX examination registration and administration fees.

657—2.9(147,155A) Licensure by license transfer/reciprocity. An applicant for license transfer/reciprocity must be a pharmacist licensed by examination in a state or territory of the United States with which Iowa has a reciprocal agreement, and the license by examination must be in good standing at the time of the application. All candidates shall take and pass the MPJE, Iowa Edition, as provided in subrule 2.1(1). Any candidate who fails to pass the examination shall be eligible for reexamination as provided in rule 2.6(147).

2.9(1) Eligibility. Each applicant for license transfer to this state who obtains the applicant's original license after January 1, 1980, must have passed the NABP Licensure Examination (NABPLEX), the NAPLEX, or an equivalent examination as determined by NABP.

a. Preliminary application. Each applicant for license transfer/reciprocity to Iowa shall complete and submit to NABP, with the appropriate fee as indicated on the application, the NABP Preliminary Application for Transfer of Pharmaceutical Licensure. Refunds of fees paid to NABP shall be at the discretion of NABP.

b. Foreign pharmacy graduates. If the applicant is a graduate of a school or college of pharmacy located outside the United States that has not been recognized and approved by the board, proof of qualifications shall include certification from the FPGEC pursuant to subrule 2.10(1).

2.9(2) Application requirements. Application to the board shall consist of the final application for license transfer prepared by NABP pursuant to the NABP license transfer program. A foreign pharmacy graduate shall submit certification from the FPGEC as provided in subrule 2.10(1). Applications, together with other required information and fees, shall be submitted as provided in subrule 2.3(3).

2.9(3) MPJE required. An applicant shall also be required to submit the registration application for MPJE, Iowa Edition, as provided in rule 2.2(155A). The form and fees shall be submitted as provided in subrules 2.3(2) and 2.3(3).

2.9(4) Fees. The fee for license transfer shall consist of the biennial license fee established by rule 2.11(147,155A) including surcharge and a processing fee of \$100. No refunds of the processing fee shall be made for cancellation or withdrawal of an application. The license fee and processing fee shall be payable to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy and may be remitted in the form of personal check, money order, or certified check.

2.9(5) Timeliness. A final application for license transfer is valid for 12 months following the date of issuance by NABP. A candidate for license transfer shall complete, within that one-year period, all licensure requirements established by this rule. No refund of fees will be made for failure to complete all licensure requirements within this one-year period.

657—2.10(155A) Foreign pharmacy graduates.

2.10(1) *Education equivalency.* Any applicant who is a graduate of a school or college of pharmacy located outside the United States that has not been recognized and approved by the board shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements of Iowa Code section 155A.8, subsection 1, by certification by the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC). Each applicant shall have successfully passed the Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Equivalency Examination (FPGEE) given by the FPGEC established by the NABP. The FPGEE is hereby recognized and approved by the board. Each applicant shall also demonstrate proficiency in written English by passing the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and proficiency in spoken English by passing the Test of Spoken English (TSE) or proficiency in basic English language skills by passing the Internet Based TOEFL (TOEFL iBT). The TOEFL, TOEFL iBT, and TSE are hereby recognized and approved by the board. Certification by the FPGEC shall be evidence of the applicant's successfully passing the FPGEE, TSE, and TOEFL, or the FPGEE and TOEFL iBT, and certification is a prerequisite to taking the licensure examinations required in subrule 2.1(1).

2.10(2) *Internship.* A foreign pharmacy graduate applicant shall also be required to obtain internship experience in one or more board-licensed community or hospital pharmacies as provided in rule 657—4.7(155A). Internship requirements shall, in all other aspects, meet the requirements established in 657—Chapter 4.

657—2.11(147,155A) License expiration and renewal. A license to practice pharmacy shall expire on the second thirtieth day of June following the date of issuance of the license, with the exception that a new pharmacist license issued between April 1 and June 29 shall expire on the third thirtieth day of June following the date of issuance. The license renewal certificate shall be issued upon completion of the renewal application and timely payment of a \$200 fee plus applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A).

2.11(1) *Late payment penalty.* Failure to renew the license before July 1 following expiration shall require payment of the renewal fee, a penalty fee of \$200, and applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A). Failure to renew the license before August 1 following expiration shall require payment of the renewal fee, a penalty fee of \$300, and applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A). Failure to renew the license before September 1 following expiration shall require payment of the renewal fee, a penalty fee of \$400, and applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A). Failure to renew the license before October 1 following expiration may require an appearance before the board and shall require payment of the renewal fee, a penalty fee of \$500, and applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A). In no event shall the combined fee and penalty fee for late renewal of the license exceed \$700 plus applicable surcharge pursuant to 657—30.8(155A). The provisions of Iowa Code section 147.11 shall apply to a license that is not renewed within five months of the expiration date.

2.11(2) *Delinquent license.* If a license is not renewed before its expiration date, the license is delinquent and the licensee may not practice pharmacy in the state of Iowa until the licensee reactivates the delinquent license. A pharmacist who continues to practice pharmacy in Iowa without a current license may be subject to disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the provisions of 657—subrule 36.1(4).

657—2.12(272C) Continuing education requirements.

2.12(1) *Continuing education program attendance.* Continuing education programs that carry the seal of an American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) approved provider will automatically qualify for continuing education credit. Program attendance is mandated in order to receive credit unless it is a correspondence course that ACPE approved. A pharmacist requesting individual credit for completing a non-ACPE provider program shall submit a request for approval of the program to the board office no later than the date the program commences. The request shall be made on forms provided by the board office. A pharmacist who is continuing formal education in health-related graduate programs may be exempted from meeting the continuing education requirements during the period of such enrollment. An applicant for this exemption shall petition the board, as soon as possible following enrollment in the qualifying graduate program, on forms provided by the board office.

2.12(2) *Continuing education unit required.* The nationally accepted measurement of continuing education is referred to as CEU (continuing education unit), and the board of pharmacy employs that measurement. Ten contact hours of approved continuing education are equivalent to one CEU. The board of pharmacy will require 3.0 CEUs each renewal period.

2.12(3) *Continuing education program attendance certificate.*

a. An approved provider will be required to make available to an individual pharmacist a certificate that indicates successful completion and participation in a continuing education program. The certificate will carry the following information:

- (1) Pharmacist's full name.
- (2) Pharmacist's license number.
- (3) Number of contact hours for program attended.
- (4) Date and place of continuing education program.
- (5) Name of program provider.
- (6) An indicator of the type or category of continuing education program completed.

b. A pharmacist must retain certificates in the pharmacist's personal files for four years.

2.12(4) *Continuing education program topics.* Each pharmacist is required to obtain a minimum of 50 percent of the pharmacist's required 3.0 CEUs in ACPE-approved courses dealing with drug therapy. Programs qualifying for the drug therapy course requirement will include the ACPE topic designator "01" in the last two digits of the program number.

2.12(5) *New license holders licensed by examination.* After the initial license is issued by examination, the new license holder is exempt from meeting continuing education requirements for the first license renewal. However, if the licensee qualifies as a mandatory abuse reporter, the licensee shall not be exempt from mandatory training for identifying and reporting abuse pursuant to rule 2.16(235B,272C). Regardless of when the license is first issued, the new license holder will be required to obtain, prior to the second renewal, 30 contact hours (3.0 CEUs) of continuing education pursuant to subrules 2.12(1) through 2.12(4).

2.12(6) *New license holders licensed by license transfer/reciprocity.* After the initial license is issued by license transfer, the new license holder will be required to obtain, prior to the first license renewal, 30 contact hours (3.0 CEUs) of continuing education credits pursuant to subrules 2.12(1) through 2.12(4).

2.12(7) *Reporting continuing education credits.*

a. A pharmacist shall submit on or with the renewal application form documentation that the continuing education requirements have been met. Documentation shall be in a format that includes the following:

- (1) The total number of credits accumulated for the renewal period;
- (2) The individual programs attended;
- (3) The dates of participation;

- (4) The credits awarded for each course;
- (5) The name of the provider of each course; and
- (6) Identification of the programs completed to comply with the drug therapy course requirements in subrule 2.12(4).

b. The board may require a pharmacist to submit the program attendance certificates that document completion of the programs included with or on the renewal application.

c. Failure to receive the renewal application shall not relieve the pharmacist of the responsibility of meeting continuing education requirements.

2.12(8) *Relicensure examination.* Nothing in these rules precludes the board from requiring an applicant for renewal to submit to a relicensure examination.

2.12(9) *Physical disability or illness.* The board may, in individual cases involving physical disability or illness, grant waivers of the minimum continuing education requirements or extensions of time within which to fulfill the same or make the required reports. No waiver or extension of time shall be granted unless written application is made and signed by the licensee and the licensee's physician. The board may grant waivers of the minimum continuing education requirements for physical disability or illness for any period of time not to exceed one renewal period. In the event that the physical disability or illness upon which a waiver has been granted continues beyond the period of the waiver, the licensee must reapply for an extension of the waiver. The board may, as a condition of any waiver granted, require the licensee to make up all or any portion of the waived continuing education requirements by any method prescribed by the board.

657—2.13(272C) Active and inactive license status.

2.13(1) *Active license.* Active license status applies to a pharmacist who has submitted the renewal application and fee and has met Iowa requirements for continuing education or to a pharmacist who is a resident of another state, licensed to practice pharmacy in that state, and has met the continuing education requirements of that state. An Iowa licensee actively practicing in a state that does not require continuing education for license renewal shall be required to meet Iowa continuing education requirements. A pharmacist meeting the continuing education requirements of another state must provide documentation on the renewal application of the pharmacist's license status in that state.

2.13(2) *Inactive license.* Failure of a pharmacist to comply with the continuing education requirements during the renewal period will result in the issuance of a renewal card marked "inactive" upon submission of the renewal application and fee. Reactivation of an inactive pharmacist license shall be accomplished by the appropriate method described below. Internship, in each instance where internship is mentioned below, shall be in a pharmacy approved by the board. The pharmacist will be issued an intern registration certificate.

a. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has been actively practicing pharmacy during the last five years in any state or states which required continuing education during that five-year period shall submit proof of continued licensure in good standing in the state or states of such practice.

b. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has been actively practicing pharmacy during the last five years in a state which does not require continuing education shall submit proof of continued licensure in good standing in the state or states of such practice. The pharmacist shall also complete one of the following options:

- (1) Take and successfully pass the MPJE, Iowa Edition, as provided in subrule 2.1(1);
- (2) Complete 160 hours of internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status (not to exceed 1,000 hours); or
- (3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under 2.12(2) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

c. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has not been actively practicing pharmacy during the past five years, and whose license has been inactive for not more than five years, shall complete one of the following options:

(1) Successfully pass all components of the licensure examination as required in rule 2.1(147,155A);

(2) Complete 160 hours of internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status; or

(3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under 2.12(2) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

d. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has not been actively practicing pharmacy for more than five years shall petition the board for reactivation of the license to practice pharmacy under one or more of the following options:

(1) Successfully pass all components of the licensure examination as required in rule 2.1(147,155A);

(2) Complete 160 hours internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status (not to exceed 1,000 hours); or

(3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under 2.12(2) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

657—2.14(155A) Fees for additional license certificates. Only original license certificates issued by the board of pharmacy for licensed pharmacists are valid. Additional original license certificates for licensed pharmacists may be obtained from the board of pharmacy for a prepaid fee of \$20 each. The fee shall be considered a repayment receipt as defined in Iowa Code section 8.2.

657—2.15(155A) Notifications to the board. A pharmacist shall report to the board within ten days a change of the pharmacist's name, address, or pharmacy employment.

657—2.16(235B,272C) Mandatory training for identifying and reporting abuse. "Mandatory training for identifying and reporting abuse" means training on identifying and reporting child abuse or dependent adult abuse required of a pharmacist who qualifies as a mandatory abuse reporter under Iowa Code section 232.69 or 235B.16. A licensed pharmacist shall be responsible for determining whether or not, by virtue of the pharmacist's practice or employment, the pharmacist qualifies as a mandatory abuse reporter under either or both of these sections.

2.16(1) Training required. A licensed pharmacist who qualifies as a mandatory abuse reporter shall have completed approved abuse education training as follows.

a. Mandatory reporter of child abuse. A pharmacist who qualifies as a mandatory reporter of child abuse shall have completed two hours of training in child abuse identification and reporting within the previous five years.

b. Mandatory reporter of dependent adult abuse. A pharmacist who qualifies as a mandatory reporter of dependent adult abuse shall have completed two hours of training in dependent adult abuse identification and reporting within the previous five years.

c. Mandatory reporter of child abuse and dependent adult abuse. A pharmacist who qualifies as a mandatory reporter of child abuse and dependent adult abuse may complete separate courses pursuant to paragraphs "a" and "b" or may complete, within the previous five years, one combined two-hour course that includes curricula for identifying and reporting child abuse and dependent adult abuse.

2.16(2) Persons exempt from training requirements. The requirements of this rule shall not apply to a pharmacist during periods that the pharmacist serves honorably on active duty in the military or during periods that the pharmacist resides outside Iowa and does not practice pharmacy in Iowa.

2.16(3) *Mandatory training records.* A pharmacist subject to the requirements of this rule shall maintain documentation of completion of the mandatory training for identifying and reporting abuse, including dates, subjects, duration of programs, and proof of participation, for five years following the date of the training. The board may audit this information at any time within the five-year period.

2.16(4) *Approved programs.* “Approved abuse education training” means a training program using a curriculum approved by the abuse education review panel of the Iowa department of public health.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 147.10, 147.36, 147.94, 147.96, 155A.8, 155A.9, 155A.11, 155A.39, and 272C.2.

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